

Message Text

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ORIGIN SNM-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 TRSE-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07

IO-11 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-03 OMB-01

AID-05 DODE-00 L-03 ABF-01 /052 R

DRAFTED BY S/NM:CBUCK:SCT

APPROVED BY S/NM:DHERNST

CUSTOMS:GMC MANUS(SUBS)

EA/RA:WGALLAGHER(PHONE)

S/NM:JFRAFFERTY

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R 220313Z JAN 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, HK

SUBJECT: HONG KONG CONFERENCE OF CUSTOMS OFFICIALS

FOR NARCOTICS COORDINATOR

1. SEPTTEL ANNOUNCES TENTATIVE PLAN FOR CONFERENCE OF CUSTOMS OFFICERS SPONSORED BY HONG KONG PREVENTIVE SERVICES AND U.S. CUSTOMS. FRANK KEENAN CURRENTLY IN HONG KONG DISCUSSING PROPOSAL WITH HKPS.

1. WHILE PROPOSED CONFERENCE IS CONSISTENT WITH CCINC DESIRE TO INTERNATIONALIZE CONCERN ABOUT DRUG TRAFFICKING, BEFORE GIVING FINAL APPROVAL WE WOULD LIKE FOR KEENAN TO KEEP FOLLOWING CONCERNS IN MIND. POST MAY NEED TO WEIGH IN AND ASSIST KEENAN IN DISCUSSIONS IN ORDER SATISFY THESE CONCERNS.

3. BELIEVE THAT HKPS SPONSORSHIP OF CONFERENCE AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR INVITATION, LOGISTICS, SPEAKERS, ETC., SHOULD

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SIBILITY FOR INVITATION, LOGISTICS, SPEAKERS, ETC., SHOULD

BE EMPHASIZED AND THAT HKPS SHOULD BE OUT IN FRONT AS HOST ORGANIZATION. U.S. CUSTOMS' ROLE WOULD ONLY BE SUPPORTIVE OF HKPS IN LIMITED AREAS SUCH AS PROVISION OF SPECIALIZED SPEAKERS OR DEMONSTRATION WITH SENSOR DOGS. SINCE THIS CONFERENCE WOULD BE AN IMPORTANT STEP TOWARD INTERNATIONALIZING DRUG PROBLEMS, DO NOT BELIEVE U.S. SHOULD TRY TO GET TOO FAR OUT FRONT IN SPONSORING CONFERENCE.

4. SINCE CCINC FUNDS MAY BE USED FINANCE U.S. CUSTOMS PARTICIPATION, IT SHOULD BE EMPHASIZED THAT PRIMARY PURPOSE THIS CONFERENCE IS INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL AND NOT CUSTOMS MATTERS IN GENERAL. WHILE DISCUSSION OF NARCOTICS CONTROL OBVIOUSLY INVOLVES TOPICS SUCH AS CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION, MANAGEMENT, ETC., EMPHASIS SHOULD BE ON HOW THESE CONTRIBUTE TO NARCOTICS CONTROL.

5. REQUEST POST ASSESSMENT WHETHER PROPOSED CONFERENCE WILL HAVE HKPS OUT IN FRONT AS SPONSORING ORGANIZATION AND WHETHER PROPOSED AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL EFFORTS OF CUSTOMS OFFICIALS AS OPPOSED TO GENERAL CUSTOMS RESPONSIBILITIES. SISCO

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NARCOTICS, CUSTOMS OFFICIALS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE015598
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: CBUCK:SCT
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760024-0605
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760131/aaaabazo.tel
Line Count: 82
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SNM
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 MAY 2004 by buchant0>; APPROVED <27 MAY 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HONG KONG CONFERENCE OF CUSTOMS OFFICIALS FOR NARCOTICS COORDINATOR
TAGS: SNAR, HK
To: HONG KONG
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006